



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

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Lieutenant Governor

Department of
Environmental Quality

Amanda Smith
Executive Director

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
Walter L. Baker, P.E.
Director

Utah's 2014 Integrated Report

May 30th, 2014

The Division of Water Quality (DWQ) is pleased to announce that the 2014 Integrated Report (IR) on the condition of Utah's rivers, streams lakes and wetlands is open for public comment from May 30th until July 14th. During this time DWQ is seeking public input on the documentation provided on our website (<http://www.waterquality.utah.gov/WQAssess/currentIR.htm>). Since our last report, we have significantly improved our methods of evaluating and reporting on the status of water quality statewide by streamlining our monitoring and assessment strategy and increasing the efficiency and accuracy of our reporting through the use of automated tools.

DWQ's tiered monitoring and assessment approach integrates a Probabilistic Survey to evaluate the status of streams, lakes, and wetlands and identify critical stressors which are impacting our impaired waters. Coupled with detailed Targeted Monitoring to identify specific areas and parameters of concern, the strategy allows DWQ to comprehensively report on the status of all waters of the state and develop a list of impaired waterbodies requiring restoration.

Improvements to our assessment process include a broader application of our water quality criteria to monitoring locations, increased data validity and quality controls through the development of automated tools for performing assessments, and thorough documentation of assessment results. The development of these tools will assist DWQ staff in defining problem areas in impaired watersheds, prioritizing areas of future study, and efficiently designing sampling plans to target monitoring efforts.

The IR contains a number of chapters, including Assessment Methods, 305(b) Report, 303(d) list, and a chapter on the assessment of the Great Salt Lake. In addition, accompanying data summaries and source data can also be found. This thorough documentation is made available for stakeholders to examine, evaluate, and provide comments.

We welcome and appreciate your input.